Austria Orders Lockdown for the 'Filthy Unvaxxed'; Deploys Police to Carry Out Spot-Checks

Wake Up Fools: Austria has placed millions of unvaccinated residents into lockdown today, with police officers deployed to ensure unvaccinated people do not leave their homes.

About 65 percent of Austria is vaccinated, according to government data. Under the extreme measures unveiled on Sunday, unvaccinated people are ordered to stay at home except for limited reasons.

The rules, the government said, will be enforced by police officers who will be out on the streets carrying out spot-checks on people.

"We are not taking this step lightly but it is necessary," Austrian Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg told a news conference.

Theepochtimes.com reports: Schallenberg admitted that the government essentially "told one-third of the population: you will not leave your apartment any more apart from for certain reasons. That is a massive reduction in contacts between the vaccinated and the unvaccinated."

Now, unvaccinated people can only leave their homes for a limited number of reasons like going to work or shopping for essentials. It's not clear how that would be enforced. Austria's lockdown does not apply to the under-12s, to people who have recently recovered from COVID-19, and will last 10 days, Health Minister Wolfgang Mueckstein said.

On Friday, Schallenberg alleged that the country's COVID-19 vaccination is "shamefully low" and indicated the government should give the "green light" for the sweeping restrictions over the weekend.

According to video footage posted online, crowds of people were seen demonstrating against the vaccine mandate in Salzburg and other Austrian cities, criticizing the "lying media" on Saturday. More protests occurred Sunday, footage shows.

Interior Minister Karl Nehammer said there will be thorough police checks and fines of up to 1,450 euros (\$1,660) for breaches, and all interactions with the police will include checking people's vaccination status. The move drew considerable condemnation online, with some commentators noting that it would severely limit freedom of movement for potentially millions of people.

"As of tomorrow, every citizen, every person who lives in Austria must be aware that they can be checked by the police," Nehammer told the news conference.

Showing an official COVID-19 pass proving that you have been vaccinated, recovered from COVID-19, or recently tested has been required for months in various places including restaurants, theaters, cafes, and hairdressers.

In nearby Germany, despite having its "2G" vaccine pass system in place for months now, COVID-19 cases surged to their highest levels last week. More than 50,000 cases were confirmed by health officials.

German Chancellor-in-waiting Olaf Scholz told Parliament on Thursday that new measures are needed "to get through this winter ... we must shelter our country from the winter." Also, government spokesman Steffen Seibert was quoted by VOA News as saying that the virus is "spreading dramatically" and asserted that a "quick and unified response" was needed.